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LETTERS

OF

Doctor LUCAS

AND

Doctor OLIVER.

[Price SIX-PENCE.]

LETTERS

OF

Doctor DICAS

TO A

Doctor OLIVER.

[Price Six-Pence.]

BRITISH MUSEUM 30 MAY 56

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OF

Doctor LUCAS

AND

Doctor OLIVER.

OCCASIONED BY A

Phyſical Confederacy

DISCOVERED IN

B A T H.

Worth makes the man; the want of it the fellow:
All elſe beſide is leather and prunella.

POPE.

BATH: Printed in the Year MDCCLVII.

And ſold by JAMES LEAKE.

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Advertisement.

THE following letters hardly require any apology for their publication: It is enough, that the welfare of the public was so far connected with the private interest of an individual, as to make this publication necessary.

No sooner had Dr. Lucas arrived in Bath, than he found that Dr. Oliver had been, some time, very assiduous in exclaiming against him, and declaring, before he was asked, that he would hold no consultation with Dr. Lucas. Every body knew at the same time, that Dr. Oliver and a few more under his influence had also formed a like confederacy, to exclude another gentleman from practicing at Bath. This was a new, and might become an effectual, method of answering books, which certain gentlemen did not like, and which they thought to damn, by conspiring in this manner against their authors, when they could not otherwise refute their writings.

With intent and hopes to break such irregular and injurious confederacies, Dr. Lucas wrote the first letter to Dr. Oliver, with such propositions, as he had no reason to doubt would prove acceptable and effectual, without any further proclamation of any man's disgrace.

The reader will readily ſee, that Dr. Oliver's anſwer is made up of ſuch terms, as makes it impoſſible for any man, leſs addicted to rudeneſs and ſcurrility, to hold further correſpondence with him. Beſides, the Dr. thinks fit to inderdict all further commerce, by declaring this to be the only letter Dr. Lucas will, tho' he muſt mean ſhall, ever receive from him.

Dr. Lucas, unwilling to ſit down under a ſcurrilous treatment, which was not well to be reſented in nother manner, with ſuch an antagoniſt; judged it incumbent on him to lay the whole caſe before the public, in his letter, Dr. Oliver's anſwer, and Dr. Lucas's reply; which his adverſary had debarred himſelf all right of receiving, otherwiſe than publicly in print.

Dr. Lucas, conſcious of meaning well to the public in general, to the city of Bath in particular, and eſpecially to ſuch of the profeſſion of phyſic, as appeared men of ſcience, public ſpirit, humanity, candor and honor, to all men above ſiniſter aſſociations; did not expect, and therefore could not be prepared for, a treatment, ſo unjuſt and undeſerved. And now, not without reluctance, finds himſelf under the neceſſity of diſcovering a conſpiracy, which all lovers of their country, the citizens of Bath in particular, muſt be as much intereſted in overturning, as he who received the more immediate or more open injuries; unleſs it be judged proper to probibit all phyſicians practicing at Bath, that do not ſue out a licence from this inquiſitorial tribunal; which may not be hoped to be obtained, unleſs upon the baſe

terms

terms prescribed by Dr. Oliver and his confederacy to Dr. Baylies; which were nothing less than retracting truths, and subscribing to notorious falsehoods.

Dr. Lucas's letter to Dr. Oliver was sent on Monday, the 7th of November. Dr. Oliver's answer was received the next morning, bearing date the preceding day. On the same day, the reply was made and the printer ordered to give the whole to the public in this manner.

The humane reader is desired to examine the references, here made, to the essay on waters. Then, let the just judge the cause, and condemn *whatever part of the author's conduct,* towards these irascible, jealous gentlemen, is found culpable. *Pref. p. xxi.*

TO

Doctor OLIVER.

SIR,

SINCE my arrival at Bath, a rumor has reached mine ears, which, if true, muſt ſhock every lover of the public, every worthy member of the healing art: And as your name is mentioned, in common juſtice, and in particular reſpect to you, I think it proper to apprize you, and thus to deſire an explanation of a matter, in which the welfare of the public, the good of the city of Bath, and the honor of the profeſſion of phyſic are all highly concerned.

It is ſaid, ſir, that a ſet of gentlemen, who are no better intituled to practice phyſic at Bath, than others of his majeſty's ſubjects, qualified by law, have formed an aſſociation, to exclude all men, that but differ with them in opinion, from practicing in this city; and this, by declaring, that the aſſociated will not conſult with certain men, of qualifications and characters that do no diſhonor to the profeſſion, and that may perhaps

haps be found not inferior to any of the members of the aſſociation.

To a gentleman of your ſenſe and learning, I need not attempt to ſhew how hateful, how illegal, how iniquitous ſuch an aſſociation muſt be. You know, ſir, we live under a happy government, where every member of the community has certain rights, which no perſon can invade. Every man, legally qualified, has a right to follow his profeſſion, freely, univerſally. Every ſubject has a right to commit the care of his health, as well as of his fortune, to whom he will; it is a tyranny to attempt to reſtrain him; and there is nothing our free laws deteſt more than a monopoly in any trade, in any profeſſion. Such an aſſociation, then, is an attempt to pervert a liberal profeſſion into a ſordid trade; to monopoliſe that trade, and to ingroſs the emoluments of a baſe craft, into the hands of a few. Give me leave to ſay, it conſtitutes a crime of another dye; It is a combination againſt certain individuals, to exclude them the common benefits of ſociety; it is a combination againſt the public, becauſe it limits the patients in their choice of phyſicians; and it is a combination againſt the dignity and honor of a profeſſion, that can never be followed, agreeable to the great ends of it's ſacred inſtitution and purpoſes, the benefit of the ſick, with ſordid mercenary views.

After this, how ſhall I tell, that fame ſets the learned and reſpectable Dr. Oliver at the head

of

of ſuch an aſſociation! how ſhall I believe it! or, how conceive, that I ſhould be of the number of the excluded! If this report be falſe, you will aſſuredly acquit yourſelf of the charge, like a gentleman, like a phyſician: But, if it ſhould be true, it is fit, and high time, the maſque ſhould be drawn off, and the public ſhewn, in a fair light, the kind of men, that ſet themſelves up as guardians to the health of the community.

As I could not think of giving you this trouble, without good authority, give me leave, ſir, to expoſtulate a little with you upon this ſubject. Did you ever hear of a ſet of men, who deſerved the venerable titule of phyſicians, form ſuch a clandeſtine, ſuch an illicit aſſociation, ſuch an infamous combination as this? or, what pretenſions can a few, not to ſay obſcure, members of the profeſſion, got together in a corner, have to dictate who ſhall have the care of the ſick at Bath, as well out of the hoſpital, as in it?

But, if ſome muſt thus take upon them this antimedical dictatorical power, to determine who ſhall, and who ſhall not, be admitted to ſhare in the practice at Bath; why this declaration againſt me?—Muſt I ſuppoſe, that you expected mine excepting againſt conſulting with men, whoſe ſhameful ignorance of the waters they treated, I detected, and therefore, made them reſolve to make the firſt outcry?—In this, you were ſurely premature; becauſe, you muſt remember, I conſulted with you before, when I knew you all, as well as I do now. Have

you any objection to my moral character?—put it to any fair teſt you will; and if it does not ſtand as clear as the beſt of yours, before any juſt judges, I will ſubmit to the cenſure. Can you object to my qualification in my profeſſion?--put that too, to any trial you will, before competent, indifferent judges, and I am willing to abide by their decree. Are you angry, that, in treating theſe baths, I preferred, as I ever muſt, truth, the good of the public, and the honor of my profeſſion, to all low, private regards? You can not, ſurely, when you conſider, with what extraordinary tenderneſs, I treated all of you, who wrote on the ſubject, expoſing your errors, not your names, 'till I was urged to it by an inviolable attachment to truth and the public good. If there be any thing repugnant to the laws or doctrines of phyſic, in any of her branches, in theſe, or any other tracts of mine; why do you not, from the ſame motives, expoſe them, and by ſo doing, prevent all likelihood of my meeting you in conſultation? So far ſhall I be from reſentment, upon ſuch an occaſion, that I ſhall honor him, as a friend to the public in general, to our profeſſion in particular, who does this, upon juſt principles. And yet, if there be any thing wrong in theſe tracts on Bath waters, the candid muſt condemn you all, in not interpoſing, when I repetedly invited you, by all the members of the ſociety, I knew, when I was repeting mine experiments here, to give me a conference on this ſubject; hoping, if I could not convince you, you might convince me, of errors, and ſo eſtabliſh theſe important truths for the common

 good.

good. Then was the time to have ſhewn yourſelves good citizens, worthy members of ſociety and of your profeſſion. What parts you then acted, I need not mention again.

Let me only obſerve to you, ſir, that refuſing to conſult, if it does not ariſe from conſcious weakneſs, is an argument of moſt extraordinary ſelf-ſufficiency, or, no leſs than arrogating a ſuperiority to the perſon excepted againſt. As the firſt and ſecond can not be ſuppoſed, I believe, with reſpect to a knowledge of theſe waters, the public will hardly allow you your demand; unleſs you can cauſe the reſurrection of your ſope and ſulphur, ſo fairly and juſtly exploded. If you can not do this, think, if any, who has the right to refuſe conſulting with the other. But, you muſt be ſenſible, no man has, or can have, ſuch an excluſive right, here. They, who have it by law, diſdain to exerciſe it, without irreſiſtable reaſon: And, for my part, I deſpiſe the thought and every man that is capable of it. If there be ſuch an attempt to monopoliſe, ſuch a deſtructive aſſociation, ſuch a confederacy in iniquity, againſt the laws of the land, againſt human benevolence and charity, againſt the rules and intentions of the healing art, and contrary to the cuſtoms and example of all well policied faculties of phyſic, our great college in particular; if ſuch a confederacy exiſts, the men are honored who are excluded; I pride in being of the number. And yet, ſo far am I from thinking of retalliation, that I ſhall always readily conſult with every man of the profeſſion.

If I find him capable of offering any thing for the patient's good, however mean, in other reſpects he may be, I ſhall give him all due credit and reſpect; if not, his utmoſt fame and rank can have no weight with me; I ſhall not ſwerve a ſhade from the duties, nor warp the honor of my profeſſion, for any aſſumed authority, unſupported by the rules of reaſon and the art.

But, if there be ſuch an aſſociation, as I hear; thus far, I will condeſcend to conſult with ſuch men, and upon theſe terms only: The patient, where the nature of the caſe will permit it, or otherwiſe, ſome ſenſible friend or two, to be preſent; the hiſtory of the caſe, and courſes taken, to be fairly laid down, and the practice canvaſſed, freely. Then, the curative indications being diſcovered, and agreed on, adequate remedies and regimen to be propoſed and preſcribed. All this made plane to the by-ſtanders, that they may determine, who has the integrity to break through trifling, deſpicable forms and ceremonies, to come at the one thing needful, the patient's good; and who has the capacity to ſerve the public and ſupport the honor of the profeſſion, which are mutual and inſeparable; or, if both ſhould be wrong, to look out for a better. This, I ſhall inſiſt on; becauſe I would not truſt my reputation, with any member of ſo infamous a confederacy, if ſuch there can be.

Upon the whole, ſir, I am come to paſs ſome days here; and though the utmoſt adverſity, that tyranny could bring upon me, has never been

been able to make me mercenary, I ſhall not decline any other practice, that offers, more then that to which I am called, here. You can have no better right to oppoſe my practicing here, than I ſhould, to oppoſe your coming to practice, where I reſide. I wiſh and endeavor to be upon good terms with all mankind, but moſt of all, with gentlemen of the profeſſion. And, ſir, with exultation I tell it, I am honored with ſome ſhare of the regards of the firſt men of the profeſſion in London, as well as in other parts of Europe. If it be agreeable to you, we ſhould draw together for the common good, and our mutual honor; you will take the trouble of ſatisfying me, under your hand, that there has been no ſuch aſſociation, no declaration to this effect, public or private; or, that if ſuch have been raſhly made, they are declared, diſſolved and annulled. When this is done, my boſom ſhall be ready to receive every candid man. We ſhall then be able to confer together, like friends and brethren, and fully diſcharge the duties of our office, to the public, and in a brotherly communion, to each other. You will find me open to conviction: If I have, publicly or privately, advanced any thing that is wrong; you will find my motive was truth, by my readineſs to retract. Or, if any man has reaſon to take offence at me, let him declare his reaſon, and I am ready to offer him every ſatisfaction that a man of ſenſe and honor can demand.

Thus, you ſee, my diſpoſition is for peace, harmony, and amity. If yours be the ſame;

you will prove it, by breaking or disavowing this confederacy, and by being as candid and explicit in an immediate answer, to,

SIR,

Your very humble

Servant,

C. LUCAS.

West-Gate-House,
Nov. 7, 1757.

TO

TO

Doctor LUCAS,

AT

WEST-GATE-HOUSE.

SIR, BATH, *Nov.* 7, 1757.

TO your very long epiſtle, pleaſe to receive this ſhort, but plain anſwer.

In your eſſay on Bath waters, you have, according to the judgment of your beſt friends, in moſt opprobrious terms, abuſed and miſrepreſented all the gentlemen of this place, who have had a *regular* education, in the profeſſion of phyſic. I am one of thoſe *regulars* on whom you have there caſt the moſt unmannerly, malicious and wicked reflections, your heated imagination could invent.

Surely, ſir, it was impoſſible that you ſhould expect any kind treatment, from the perſons, whom

whom you had thus publickly injured! I have nothing to do with the conduct of my abused brethren. I can only say for myself, that if I ſhould ever hereafter hold any conſultation, controverſy, or converſation, with the man, from whom I have received ſuch uſage, I ſhould eſteem myſelf to be *really* as great a ſcoundrel as he has repreſented me to be. This is the only letter you will ever receive from your well-wiſher,

Wm TOLIVER.

Doctor LUCAS

TO

Doctor OLIVER.

SIR,

HOWEVER ſufficient you may think your great example, for laying aſide the character of the phyſician, the gentleman, and the chriſtian; I muſt be excuſed, if to the complicated crimes, you are pleaſed to make for me, I add one more; and tell the world and you, I dare, in this too, diſſent from you; and avow, that I think you no better a patron of politeneſs, humanity or public ſpirit, than for knowledge in the conſtituent parts and properties of Bath waters; to ſay nothing of the practice, founded upon your principles.

You, great ſir, no doubt, expected, I ſhould level myſelf with you, and pay you in your own coin; evaſion and ſcurrility. Something, to which you are a ſtranger, reſtrains, and bids

me tell you, that all the baſe metal, you can coin in this way, though thus ſtamped with your awful image and ſuperſcription, can have no currency with me. Yea, you are welcome to diſcharge the corroding choler by your pen, which you can not otherwiſe cure, or correct; ſince you were unfortunately robbed of your ſovereign, though ideal catholicon, *ſope* and *brimſtone*, in Bath waters. But, if you take it ill, that you are not treated by me according to your deſert; imagine the worſt you deſerve, given; which for peace and decency I decline, and take what remedy you dare. In the mean time, be not diſconcerted by your diſappointments, and finding that I thus compoſed ſit down to anſwer your inſolent letter, to the public, not to you; reſolved, 'till further provoked, in another's words, to take any thing at the hands of Dr. OLIVER, except his preſcriptions.

Now, let me examine this great phyſician, this honeſt, ſenſible, and polite gentleman's letter. You ſay, I have in *moſt obprobricus terms, abuſed and miſrepreſented all the gentlemen of this place, who have had a* regular *education in phyſic.* And that, *you are one of thoſe* regulars, *on whom I have caſt the moſt* unmannerly, malicious, *and* wicked reflections, *my heated imagination could invent.*—Now, had I not a little more manners, ſomewhat leſs choler, and much leſs malice than you, I ſhould ſay, in plane terms, well ſuited to the perſon addreſſed, the charge is FALSE. It is true, I demonſtrated, throughout mine eſſay on Bath waters, a moſt ſhameful abuſe of theſe great

great fountanes of health, through the ignorance and craft of certain men, that piqued themſelves upon being *regulars*; while ſome of them were but *undergraduates*, in phyſic; like a woman that has not a ſingle grace, being proud of one virtue, in which ſhe never was tried, and abuſing every woman, however beautiful, that had every virtue but that. It is alſo true, I enveighed againſt the contemptuous treatment, given by ſuch men, to the graduates of other univerſities, and their unpardonable inſolence to the moſt reſpectable body of phyſicians in the world. I pointed out one practicioner, that makes green tea and Bath-water ſynonymous, without naming him: And ſhew ſome inſtances of public impoſitions and abuſes, particularly in the conduct of the hoſpital; ſect 54, to 61.

Again, in my preface to the general work, I complain of the treatment given me and my labors, by ſome of theſe boaſting *regulars*; p. xviii. And in my dedication to a noble lord, whom I made ſenſible of ſuch ignorance and abuſes, I declare my taſk to be no leſs than *the wreſting the curious waters of* Bath *from ſtiff-necked, deſtructive empiriciſm; aboliſhing vane, though fondly-confirmed, notions; and groundleſs, though long-eſtabliſhed, prejudices; inſtituting a rational, inſtead of a moſt irrational practice; exploding the long-received, Gothic barbariſm, with a view to revive and re-eſtabliſh* Roman *or* Attic, *or rather* Britiſh *elegance, conveniente and utility in the baths in general*; and tell my future apprehenſions, from the ill treatment given me, by thoſe gentlemen,

which I am at a loſs where to claſs, among the *regular*, *irregular*, *defective* or *abuſive*; dedication, p. ccxiii.

Theſe charges were made in general terms, out of pure humanity, to men, who deſerved worſe of the public and of me. Nor could I put in the exceptions to them, which I might, having met with much good ſenſe, ſcience, candor, honor, and public ſpirit, in ſeveral phyſicians at Bath; becauſe I did not chooſe even thus to point out the aggreſſors, hoping ſhame might in time bring them to conviction and repentance. How little did I expect, that Doctor OLIVER would turn informer? and by his aſſociation, his conſpiracy, and particular inſolence to me, ſhould point out the conſpirators againſt truth, phyſic, freedom and common ſenſe? Could any thing leſs than a guilty conſcience prompt this?

Frightful characters of men, *called phyſicians*, at Bath, even *regulars*, by themſelves, were certainly drawn, by me. Theſe characters, were either falſe or true. If falſe, they were but imaginary; and conſequently, ſhould give no man living, offence; but, Doctor OLIVER has found out, that if the cap were not made for certain heads, there were heads which it fitted right well: And ſo, firſt puts it on himſelf, then on the heads of his fellow conſpirators, and ſatelites, and finding it well adapted to the whole number, the grand conſpiracy is formed, which he tacitly acknowledges, in a curious anſwer, worthy of himſelf, to my firſt letter. And ſure,

ſince

ſince he has done this, every man of ſenſe and honor will acquit himſelf of the ſhameful aſſociation, and dare, in ſpight of the *great leader* of the *regulars*, ſhew himſelf a friend to truth, to the public and to his profeſſion: For now, that ſuch a ſcandalous conſpiracy is avowed, it is to be hoped every man, who diſdains to be ſuſpected, will vindicate his own honor and that of his profeſſion; and let thoſe ſons of darkneſs, that are fit for *treaſons*, *ſtratagems*, and *ſpoils*, ſtand alone, neglected and deſpiſed; 'till, upon clear conviction, and pure penitence, they are readmitted into ſociety.

DOCTOR OLIVER ſays, *I was not to expect* kind treatment *from theſe men*. No truly; not even, all that I could have looked for, common juſtice or civility: For, my conduct does, and I hope, ever ſhall, challenge the enmity of the froward and baſe: But, to ſhew my regard to juſtice, it is fit I ſhould, in one inſtance, confeſs mine obligation to certain gentlemen; when, by putting aſide their robes, they let the cloven feet be ſeen.

As for *publickly injuring*, I challenge the world to ſay, I ever offered or deſigned an offence, public or private, to any man, unprovoked. They that can be angry for a zealous and ſtrict diſcharge of a man's duty, or think themſelves in danger, when knaves or fools are brought to the chaſtiſement of the ſtocks, can be worth no man's notice. Who would wiſh to aſſociate with men, before whom, vice or bribe are not to be mentioned,

mentioned, leaſt each cry, theſe were levelled at him?

But, though I could have been inconſiderate enough to laſh at all the gentlemen of the profeſſion at Bath, without, even room for, diſtinction; ſure no man, conſcious of his own honor and integrity, could take the charge to himſelf. And if it appears, that Doctor OLIVER, of all others, had the leſt right to be offended; what a rancorous heart muſt he have, and what a ſcurrillous mouth, to conceive ſo much baſeneſs, to utter ſo many foul and falſe words!

Let us ſee then, whoſe head appears moſt *heated*, moſt *wicked*; whoſe heart, moſt *malicious*, and whoſe tongue, moſt *unmannered*.

This is done by giving a few ſpecimens of the *unmannerly, malicious, and wicked reflections*, which are ſayed to have been caſt upon Doctor OLIVER.

1. The firſt, that occurs to me is a ſort of interogatory inference from an experiment, on Bath waters, eſſay; p. 302,—'How then, can theſe waters be deemed *ſaponaceous* by DOCTOR OLIVER and others?'—This is *unmannerly* and *malicious* with the doctor! Let him vouchſafe to tell why, if he can.

2. The next is, in finding fault with the neglect of recording the caſes of the patients in the hoſpital; after which, theſe words are added,

p. 243;

p. 243;—'Except ſome few, which ſeem vey ſuccinctly, accurately and learnedly layed down, by that eminent practicioner, DOCTOR OLIVER.'—Here is *malice* and *wickedneſs* to the higheſt, in the doctor's eſtimation. Granted. It is probably here he thinks himſelf *abuſed* and *miſrepreſented*. Forgive his modeſty, he knows himſelf better than I did; and took this for ſarcaſm and irony. Let him take it ſo, and pervert it to *atrabile*, if he will, as foul ſtomachs do wholeſom food.

3. The laſt I ſhall obſerve, muſt be what the learned doctor means to call *wicked*, of his abundant ſagacity and nice judgment. Thus it ſtands, an inference from an experiment: 'Had this been duly weighed, before a very learned and ingenious practicioner of this age, had expended much good ſenſe and phyſical knowledge, in a practical eſſay on the uſe and abuſe of warm bathing; we might have expected a finiſhed diſſertation, founded upon true principles, not built upon the groundleſs notion received; to wit, *that the ſaline, ſulphureous and ſaponaceous particles, manifeſtly contained in the* Bath waters, *muſt render theſe more penetrating, and more powerful ſolvents, than common* WATER:*—For, if theſe ingredients, eſpecially the ſecond and third, are not to be found in the waters, as muſt now be confeſſed, the very reverſe of ſope planely predominating; Bath water cannot be as penetrating or as good a ſolvent, as common warm water. Therefore, this tract, whileſt it appears full of juſt reaſoning,

* Dr. Oliver's words.

will

will be found but a baſeleſs fabric'!—Here is matchleſs *abuſe* and *wickedneſs!* blood and murder! the death and burial of Doctor OLIVER's *ſope* and *brimſtone!* The pulling down the *ſilver ſhrine*, that brought much *gold* to the *crafty artificers*, who thought their *great Diana* muſt be ſet at naught; ſince they could conceive none other virtues to be proved in Bath waters, than what their worthy predeceſſors delivered to them, or their own weak, diſtempered brains conceived.

Thus it appears, that barely differing in opinion with Dr. OLIVER, is a crime againſt the INQUISITOR GENERAL and his *conclave*, at Bath, ſufficient to incur his tremendous wrath, with the ſevere epithets, of *unmannerly*, *malicious*, and *wicked*, and the charge of *abuſe* and *miſrepreſentation!* Let cool heads, and honeſt hearts, judge, with how much juſtice and humanity.

But, the aſſociation, tacitly, if not directly, confeſs'd, the good doctor, 'will not anſwer for the conduct of his *abuſed*, as he calls his *abuſing*, *brethren*;' to wit, the yet maſqued conſpirators: He will only anſwer for himſelf, and ſays, *that if ever he holds conſultation, controverſy, or converſation*, with me, he muſt eſteem himſelf as REAL A SCOUNDRELL as I repreſented him to be.

Now, mark his good ſenſe, the clearneſs of his underſtanding, and his regard to truth and decency.

Good

Good ſir, if you be not anſwerable for the conduct of your *abuſed*, as you call your *abuſing*, *brethren*; why your haughty embaſſy to Doctor Baylies, with propoſals, that ſhewed, that if he could retract the truths he publiſhed with regard to *your* hoſpital, &c; that is, cringe, ſmile, lie, and record himſelf a villain, he might be qualified for fellowſhip with the *junto?* How happy are they that fall into the hands of ſuch an aſſociation!

Then ſir, you can bring your private paſſions, your piques, your reſentments, however groundleſs, to interfere with the duties of your profeſſion! No perſon is to look for health, otherwiſe than as you direct, at Bath! In this, as in other reſpects, I pride in differing with you: I can coolely meet my direſt foe in conſultation; ſuſpend the juſteſt, private indignation; hear, and give due weight to, all he can offer for the patient's good, which muſt then engage all my thoughts and care.—What *bulls* will you next iſſue to *damn* the man that thus ſpurns at your great example and authority?

Why did you not vouchſafe ſome anſwer to the laſt, and the end of the preceding, paragraph of my letter? Why not bring me to *retract errors*, upon *conviction?* Why not give me an opportunity of making *attonement for offences*, by ſhewing, I had *really given ſome?* Why not ſhew *ſome diſpoſition* for *peace*, *harmony*, and *amity?*—Remember, you are not bound to give a reaſon, when you have it not; nor to an-

ſwer queſtions, that may criminate or expoſe you. In prudence, then, be dumb for ever.

Now, ſir, when and where have I *repreſented you a ſcoundrell?* How *abuſe* and *miſrepreſent* you and your *trading company?* Is it by calling *you, accurate, learned,* an *eminent practicioner,* and by aſcribing to *you,* much *good ſenſe* and *phyſical knowledge,* &c.?—I believe, you are in one inſtance right, and I ſtand corrected. But, as I have not long enough converſed with gentlemen of your caſt, to comprehend the meaning of your word, *ſcoundrell,* fully; which you ſo pathy, and no doubt, pertinently, uſe; you muſt forgive me, if I happen to miſapply it.

It was, indeed, likely, that in *conſultation, controverſy,* or *converſation* with me; you might be fairly layed open, which might indanger your falling into ſuch an eſtimation as you mention, with others, as well as yourſelf. Your prudence in this, was ſurely equal to your penetration.—I wiſh however, you had had recourſe to an expreſſion, better known among phyſicians and gentlemen. But, ſince you have not, you can not take it ill, that I direct ſuch as want an explanation of *your technical* word, *ſcoundrell,* to Doctor WILLIAM OLIVER, at Bath.

I now begin, to fear, ſir, you are become a *ſceptic* in your own doctrines and practice: An *infidel* in *phyſic,* is of all others the worſt; except an *infidel* among *divines.*—It affords a melancholy reflection, that one *celebrated practicioner* is *dead,*

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an other, with his eyes too much jaundiced to diſtinguiſh colors, *conſuming* to *death*; both of malignant, *choleric diſtempers*, with the remedy, had they but ſaving *faith*, at their hands and lips, here at our Bethesda!—For ſhame, ſir, go, drink, waſh, and be clean.

I ſuppoſe, you thought *your confederacy*, *your bulls* and *anathemas*, would frighten me from Bath! Though I never intended reſiding here; if I could think myſelf of conſequence enough to obviate the ſhameful, wicked tendency of *your trading aſſociation*, and could get clear of other engagements; I ſhould, every ſeaſon, give ſome attendance here, 'till the effects of your unheared of cenfederacy in phyſic were no more felt or known.

Now, my kind, and loving WELL-WISHER, farewell! I am ſorry to find your righteous ſpirit chafed: The good doctor ſeems angry! O! the pity of it! Come, chear up, man: You have moved no paſſion in me, but contempt; and to that, you can be no ſtranger. I ſuppoſe you expected, I ſhould retort ſome of your own foul breath upon you. I can not ſtoop ſo low, in reſpect to the company I keep, in reſpect to myſelf: Inſtead of returning to you, the abuſe you give; were you not an object of compaſſion, I ſhould laugh at you. Be aſſured, it is indifferent to me, whether your *ſhort but plain* anſwer of this morning, be your laſt letter, or your laſt ſpeech. Nor does it more concern me, whether I ſee or meet you again,

again, here on earth, or not. And, ſure I am, ſouls as different as yours and mine can never meet hereafter. Farewell, and be as happy as your conſcience can permit. But, remember, you muſt diſſolve *your conſpiracy, diſband your legions, and ſubmit your conduct to the public cenſure,* before you can expect, a *well-wiſher* or a *friend,* in,

C. LUCAS.

Weſt-Gate-Houſe,
BATH, Nov. 8, 1757.

The END.